

CLAIMS

[1] A right management system for managing license information that allows usage of content, comprising:

a license information generation unit operable to generate the license information including a usage condition that shows a condition for allowing the usage;

a range designation obtainment unit operable to obtain information showing range designation of the usage condition from a content provider that produces the content;

a usage condition judgment unit operable to judge whether or not the usage condition included in the generated license information is within the designated range; and

a validation unit operable to validate the generated license information only when the usage condition is judged to be within the range as a result of the judgment.

[2] The right management system according to Claim 1, comprising:

a first right management device provided for said content provider;

a second right management device provided for a service provider that issues the license information to an end user; and

a terminal device with which the end user uses the content, wherein said second right management device is operable to have:

said license information generation unit; and further, a transmission unit operable to transmit the generated license information to said terminal device of the end user, and

said terminal device is operable to have:

said range designation obtainment unit;

said usage condition judgment unit;

said validation unit; and further,

a reception unit operable to receive the license information from said second right management device,

wherein said range designation obtainment unit is operable to obtain the information showing the range of the usage condition in regard to the received license information from said first right management device,

said usage condition judgment unit is operable to judge whether or not the usage condition in regard to the received license information is within the designated range, and

said validation unit is operable to abandon the received license information when the usage condition is judged not to be within the range as a result of the judgment.

[3] The right management system according to Claim 1, comprising:

a first right management device provided for said content provider;

a second right management device provided for a service provider that issues the license information to an end user; and

a terminal device with which the end user uses the content, wherein said second right management device is operable to have:

said license information generation unit;

said range designation obtainment unit;

said usage condition judgment unit; and

said validation unit,

wherein said range designation obtainment unit is operable to obtain the information showing the range of the usage condition in regard to the received license information from said first right management device, and

said validation unit is operable to insert a content key, with which encrypted content is decrypted, into the generated license

information only when the usage condition is within the range.

[4] The right management system according to Claim 3,
wherein said first right management device is operable to
5 have:

a contract license generation unit operable to generate
contract license information including the content key and the
information showing the range of the usage condition; and

a transmission unit operable to transmit the generated
10 contract license to said second right management device, and
said second right management device is further operable to
have

a contract license reception unit operable to receive the
contract license from said first right management device,

15 wherein said range designation obtainment unit is operable to
obtain the information showing the range of the usage condition
from the received contract license,

said usage condition judgment unit is operable to judge
whether or not the usage condition included in the generated license
20 information is within the range of the read usage condition, and

said validation unit is operable to extract the content key from
the received contract license and to insert the extracted content key
into the generated license information only when the usage
condition is within the range.

25

[5] The right management system according to Claim 4,
wherein said right management device is further operable to
have

an issue unit operable to issue the license information, into
30 which the content key has been inserted, to said terminal device of
the end user only when the usage condition is judged to be within
the range as a result of the judgment.

[6] The right management system according to Claim 3,
wherein said first right management device is operable to
have:

5 a contract license generation unit operable to generate
contract license information including the content key, the
information showing the range of the usage condition, and a
condition regarding an issue of the license information; and

a transmission unit operable to transmit the generated
10 contract license to said second right management device, and
said second right management device is further operable to
have:

a contract license reception unit operable to receive the
contract license from said first right management device;

15 an issue condition obtainment unit operable to obtain the
condition regarding the issue from the contract license; and

an issue unit operable to issue the license information to said
terminal device of the end user,

wherein said range designation obtainment unit is operable to
20 obtain the information showing the range of the usage condition
from the received contract license,

said usage condition judgment unit is operable to judge
whether or not the usage condition included in the generated license
information is within the range of the read usage condition,

25 said validation unit is operable to extract the content key from
the received contract license and to insert the extracted content key
into the generated license information only when the usage
condition is within the range, and

said issue unit is operable to issue license information, into
30 which the content key has been inserted, in accordance with the
obtained condition regarding the issue.

[7] A right management device for managing license information that allows usage of content, comprising:

a license information generation unit operable to generate the license information including a usage condition that shows a condition for allowing the usage;

a range designation reception unit operable to receive information showing a range of the usage condition from a right management device provided for a content provider that produces the content;

a usage condition judgment unit operable to judge whether or not the usage condition included in the generated license information is within the designated range; and

a validation unit operable to validate the generated license information only when the usage condition is judged to be within the range as a result of the judgment.

[8] The right management device according to Claim 7,

wherein said range designation reception unit is operable to receive the information showing the range of the usage condition from said right management device of said content provider that produces the content,

said right management device is further operable to comprise a content key obtainment unit operable to obtain a content key, which was used for encrypting the content, from said right management device of said content provider, and

said validation unit is operable to insert the content key into the generated license information only when the usage condition is within the range.

[9] The right management device according to Claim 8,

wherein said range designation reception unit is operable to receive designation of a time period during which the content is

allowed to be used, as the usage condition, from said right management device of said content provider,

said usage condition judgment unit is operable to judge whether or not the time period included in the generated license information, during which the content is allowed to be used, is within the designated range, and

said validation unit is operable to validate the license information only when the time period included in the license information, during which the content is allowed to be used, is within the designated range.

[10] The right management device according to Claim 8,

wherein said range designation reception unit is operable to receive designation of a range of a total number of times the content is allowed to be used, as the usage condition, from said right management device of said content provider,

said usage condition judgment unit is operable to judge whether or not the range of the total number of times the content is allowed to be used, which is included in the generated license information, is within the designated range, and

said validation unit is operable to validate the license information only when the range of the total number of times the content is allowed to be used, which is included in the license information, is within the designated range.

[11] The right management device according to Claim 8,

wherein said range designation reception unit is operable to receive designation of a range of a total time length for which the content is allowed to be used, as the usage condition, from said right management device of said content provider,

said usage condition judgment unit is operable to judge whether or not the range of the total time length, for which the

content is allowed to be used and which is included in the generated license information, is within the designated range,

5 said validation unit is operable to validate the license information only when the range of the total time length, for which the content is allowed to be used and which is included in the license information, is within the designated range.

[12] The right management device according to Claim 8,

10 wherein said range designation reception unit is operable to receive designation of a continuous time length during which the content is allowed to be continuously used from said right management device of said content provider,

15 said usage condition judgment unit is operable to judge whether or not the continuous time length included in the generated license information is within the designated range, and

 said validation unit is operable to validate the license information only when the continuous time length included in the generated license information is within the designated range.

20 [13] The right management device according to Claim 8,

 wherein at least said usage condition judgment unit is made up of a tamper resistant module.

25 [14] The right management device according to Claim 7, further comprising:

 an issue condition designation reception unit operable to receive information showing designation of a condition regarding an issue of license information for each content;

30 a license information issue unit operable to issue the license information corresponding to the content to said terminal device of the end user; and

 an issue condition judgment unit operable to judge whether

or not the issue of the license information satisfies the designated condition,

wherein said license information issue unit is operable to issue the license information to the end user only when the issue of the license information is judged to satisfy the designated condition as a result of the judgment.

[15] The right management device according to Claim 14,

wherein said issue condition designation reception unit is operable to receive designation of a total number of sets of the license information which are allowed to be issued,

said right management device is further operable to comprise:

a number-of-issue count unit operable to count a total number of sets of the license information to be issued, for each content; and

a number-of-issue judgment unit operable to judge whether or not the counted total number of sets of the license information satisfies the designated condition,

wherein said license information issue unit is operable to issue the license information only when the total number of issues is judged to satisfy the condition as a result of the judgment.

[16] The right management device according to Claim 14,

wherein said issue condition designation reception unit is operable to receive designation of an issue period during which the license information is allowed to be issued,

said issue condition judgment unit is operable to judge whether or not a current time of day satisfies the designated issue period, and

said license information issue unit is operable to issue the license information only when the current time of day is judged to

satisfy the designated issue period as a result of the judgment.

[17] The right management device according to Claim 7, further comprising:

5 an issue condition designation reception unit operable to receive designation of a condition regarding an issue of the license information, corresponding to each usage condition within the designated range, from said right management device of said content provider; and

10 a license information issue unit operable to issue the end user the license information satisfying the issue condition corresponding to the usage condition only when the usage condition is judged to be within the range as a result of the judgment made by said usage condition judgment unit.

15

[18] The right management device according to Claim 17,

 wherein when the usage condition is a total number of times the content is allowed to be used and the condition regarding the issue of the license information is the number of issues of the license
20 information, said license information issue unit is operable to issue the license information so that each eventual total number of times the content is allowed to be used is nearly the same, in accordance with the issue condition corresponding to the usage condition.

25 [19] A terminal device of an end user for reproducing content in accordance with license information that allows usage of the content, comprising:

 a request unit operable to request the license information used for reproducing a specific content from a right management
30 device of a service provider;

 a license information obtainment unit operable to obtain in response to the request: the license information including a usage

condition that shows a condition for allowing the usage of the content; and range designation information designating a range of the usage condition;

5 a usage condition judgment unit operable to judge whether or not the usage condition included in the obtained license information is within the range designated in the range designation information; and

10 an abandon unit operable to abandon the obtained license information when the usage condition is judged not to be within the range designated in the range designation information as a result of the judgment.

[20] A right management method for managing license information that allows usage of content, comprising:

15 generating the license information including a usage condition that shows a condition for allowing the usage;

receiving information showing a range of the usage condition from a right management device provided for a content provider that produces the content;

20 judging whether or not the usage condition included in the generated license information is within the received range; and

validating the generated license information only when the usage condition is judged to be within the range as a result of the judgment.

25

[21] A right management method for a terminal device of an end user that reproduces content in accordance with license information that allows usage of the content, comprising:

30 requesting the license information used for reproducing a specific content from a service provider;

obtaining in response to the request: the license information including a usage condition that shows a condition for allowing the

usage of the content; and range designation information designating a range of the usage condition;

judging whether or not the usage condition included in the obtained license information is within the range designated in the range designation information; and

abandoning the obtained license information when the usage condition is judged not to be within the range designated in the range designation information as a result of the judgment.

[22] A program for a right management device which manages license information that allows usage of content, the program causing a computer to execute:

a license information generation step of generating the license information including a usage condition that shows a condition for allowing the usage;

a range designation reception step of receiving information showing a range of the usage condition from a right management device provided for a content provider that produces the content;

a usage condition judgment step of judging whether or not the usage condition included in the generated license information is within the designated range; and

a validation step of validating the generated license information only when the usage condition is judged to be within the range as a result of the judgment.

[23] A program for a terminal device of an end user that reproduces content in accordance with license information that allows usage of the content, the program causing a computer to execute:

a request step of requesting the license information used for reproducing a specific content from a right management device of a service provider;

a license information obtainment step of obtaining in response to the request: the license information including a usage condition that shows a condition for allowing the usage of the content; and range designation information designating a range of the usage condition;

a usage condition judgment step of judging whether or not the usage condition included in the obtained license information is within the range designated in the range designation information; and

an abandon step of abandoning the obtained license information when the usage condition is judged not to be within the range designated in the range designation information as a result of the judgment.

[24] A record medium storing:

(1) a content key used for decrypting encrypted content; and
(2) information designating a range of a usage condition that shows a condition for allowing usage of the content.

[25] A record medium storing:

(1) a content key used for decrypting encrypted content;
(2) information designating a range of a usage condition that shows a condition for allowing usage of the content; and
(3) a condition regarding an issue of license information that allows the usage of the content under the usage condition.